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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Robert A. Sanderson, et al.
Serial No. : 09/696,139
Filed : October 25, 2000
Title : PISTON ENGINE ASSEMBLY

Art Unit : 3747
Examiner : Kamen

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE

In response to the action mailed July 19, 2002, please amend the application as follows.

In the claims:

Please amend claims 51, 53, and 72 as follows:

51. (Amended) The piston assembly of claim 45 wherein the joint is configured such that the drive arm received in the joint is rotatable about an axis of the drive arm.

53. (Amended) The piston assembly of claim 52 wherein the joint is configured such that the drive arm received in the joint is rotatable about an axis of the drive arm.

72. (Amended) A piston assembly, comprising:
a plurality of double ended members, each double ended member having first and second elements configured for linear motion along a common axis, at least one of the first and second elements being a piston,

a transition arm coupled to a stationary support, the transition arm including a plurality of drive arms, each drive arm defining a drive arm axis, and

a plurality of joints, each joint for coupling one of the plurality of drive arms to a respective one of the double ended members, each joint providing rotation about the drive arm axis, and sliding in the direction of at least one of first and second orthogonal axes perpendicular to the common axis, and

a universal joint connecting the transition arm to the stationary support by two pins to permit pivoting motion about two axes.